

The CASE of Sir CHARLES WYNDHAM K^{nt}

Concerning his Election to serve in this present Parliament
as Burgeses for the County and Town of SOUTHAMPTON.

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*Humbly offered to the Consideration of the Honourable the Knights, Citizens and Burgeses in
PARLIAMENT Assembled.*



He said County and Town of SOUTHAMPTON is an Antient Borough
by Prescription, and sent Burgeses to Parliament, before ever they
received any Charter of Incorporation.

Time out of mind the Custom hath been that all the Burgeses and
Free-holders living within the said Town have had Votes in Electi-
ons, and cannot justly be deni'd them; for that they have no Vote as
Free-holders in HAMPSHIRE, by reason they live, and their Free-holds lie within
the County, and Town of it self.

His Majesties Writ directed to the Sheriff of the said County and Town coming
to his hands, and requiring him to proceed to the Election of two Persons to serve
as Burgeses in this present Parliament for that place: Proclamation thereof was
duly made, and the 5th. day of February 1678. was appointed for such Election;
where there stood in competition for the said Burgeses;

Sir CHARLES WYNDHAM K^{nt}.

THOMAS KNOWLES

BENJAMIN NEWLAND, } Esqs;

Sir CHARLES WYNDHAM and BENJAMIN NEWLAND Esq; and the Electors
being come to the place of Election; the Poll was demanded, and granted.

All the Burgeses and Free-holders that appeared, were admitted to the Poll, and
actually Polled sitting the Court.

There appeared at the Election of Burgeses and Free-holders 100.

Mr. Benjamin Newland had of Burgeses and Free-holders, — 96.

Sir Charles Wyndham had of Burgeses and Free-holders, — 70.

Mr. Thomas Knowles had of Burgeses and Free-holders, — 36.

So that Sir Charles Wyndham had the majority from Mr. Knowles by 34.

Neverthe-less, the Sheriff, (who before the Election, had declared he would
not Return Sir CHARLES WYNDHAM, although he should happen to be Elected
by the majority of the Burgeses, for that he was secured,) was prevailed upon, con-
trary to Justice, and the Trust of his Office, and in manifest injury to the said Sir
CHARLES WYNDHAM,) to Return the said THOMAS KNOWLES Esq; with
Mr. NEWLAND; when as the Right was in Sir CHARLES WYNDHAM, and He
ought to have been Returned.

And this the Sheriff did on pretence that none but Capital Burgeses had right to
Vote in Elections; (whereby he would exclude all the common Burgeses, Free-
holders and Inhabitants, who (if so,) have no Person to Represent them in Parlia-
ment,) Whenas he well knew that the Free-holders have, and ever had a right to
Vote in such Elections; (as by the Certificate of the Mayor, and the majority of the
Aldermen under their hands will appear,) admitted to that Right, and did Vote
in the late Elections made for that Town and County, and were treated by Mr.
KNOWLES himself before his Election to serve in the last Parliament for that place,
upon account of Voting for him in such Election; — Mr. MAN and Mr. GALLOP
standing in competition with him; But they giving over, Mr. KNOWLES was
chosen, and Returned without any opposition, and no Poll demanded; but when-
ever a Poll hath been demanded, the Free-holders have been admitted thereunto.

*This being the CASE of Sir CHARLES WYNDHAM, He submits the same to the
Consideration of this Honourable House,*

The Cause upon the Merits is to be heard on Friday the 16th. day of May 1679.